

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: August 7, 2014

Agenda Item: Organizations to Auction 2015 Moose, Sheep, Goat, Mule Deer Elk Licenses

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for the Presentation: 15 minutes

Background

ARM 12.3.131 & 12.3.132 establishes the criteria and process for selecting conservation organizations to conduct the moose, sheep, goat, mule deer and elk license auctions/lotteries. FWP solicited proposals to conduct the auctions/lotteries. The Commission decides which organization is awarded the license(s) for distribution through auction or lottery.

The 2014 species auction licenses were awarded to:

- Mule Deer Foundation – mule deer
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – elk and moose
- Safari Club International-Great Falls – mountain goat
- Wild Sheep Foundation – bighorn sheep

All licenses were auctioned at fund raising events.

Public Involvement Process and Results

A press release and notice on the FWP website for solicitation of interested organizations were completed this year. A letter of solicitation was sent to cooperators that expressed interest. Responding proposals for 2015 licenses came from the following:

- Montana Ducks Unlimited – moose
- Mule Deer Foundation – mule deer and elk
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – elk and moose
- Wild Sheep Foundation – bighorn sheep
- Safari Club International-Great Falls – mountain goat
- Safari Club International-San Francisco – elk, mule deer and moose, mountain goat
- Safari Club International-Montana – moose and mountain goat
- Rocky Mountain Goat Alliance – mountain goat

Alternatives and Analysis

This format has been successful and FWP hasn't used another alternative. Interest in obtaining and aggressively auctioning these licenses has remained high among these responding conservation organizations. Further, many of these conservation organizations have effectively partnered with FWP on other conservation and management efforts.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP typically does not make a specific recommendation to the Commission in terms of which organization should be awarded which license and has been asked by the Commission to merely pass along the proposals submitted.

Proposed Motion

I move the Commission approve (organization name) to be awarded the 2015 (species name) auction license.